

pressure of the fluid supplied to the at least one first support unit and the at least one second support unit, wherein the pressure differential is adjusted as at least one of a function of at least one of a line force in the roll nip by predeterminable characteristic curves and a function of line force correction procedures for the roll nip,

wherein the line force correction procedures may be at least one of input by way of an electronic control and produced by way of corresponding signals of a process guidance system.

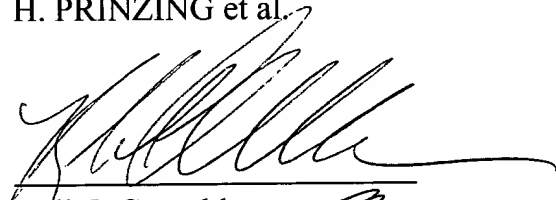
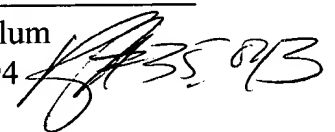
REMARKS

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the foregoing amendment prior to examination of the above-identified RCE application.

Further, Applicants note that independent claims 1 and 33 have been amended to recite combinations of features not previously considered by the Examiner during the prosecution of the instant application. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the claims raise new issues for consideration by the Examiner.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,
H. PRINZING et al.


Neil F. Greenblum
Reg. No. 28,394 

P17233.Ai2

April 28, 2003

GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.

1941 Roland Clarke Place

Reston, VA 20191

(703) 716-1191

APPENDIX

Marked-Up Copies of the Amended Claims:

1. (Twice amended) A press device for treating a fibrous material web comprising:

a shoe press unit, said shoe press unit comprising a flexible press belt that revolves around a non-rotating carrier;

a counter roll, said counter roll comprising a deflection compensation roll with a roll jacket revolving around a second non-rotating carrier;

a third roll;

a roll nip, said roll nip formed between said counter roll and said third roll;

a press nip, said press nip elongated in a web travel direction, and formed between said shoe press unit and said counter roll;

at least one first support element being pressure fluid-actuated, the flexible press belt supported on the non-rotating carrier by said at least one first support element in the region of the elongated press nip;

at least one second support element being pressure fluid-actuated, the roll jacket supported on the second non-rotating carrier by said at least one second support element in the region of the elongated press nip,

a pressure fluid line arranged to generate internal pressures by the at least one first support element on the flexible press belt of the shoe press unit and by the at least one second

support element on the roll jacket of the counter roll; and

an adjustment device arranged to change a pressure differential between the internal pressures generated by the at least one first support element acting on the flexible press belt of the shoe press unit, and the at least one second support element acting on the roll jacket of the counter roll, said adjustment device being structured and arranged to adjust the pressure differential as at least one of a function of at least one of a line force in the roll nip by predeterminable characteristic curves, and a function of line force correction procedures for the roll nip,

wherein the line force correction procedures may be at least one of input by way of an electronic control and produced by way of corresponding signals of a process guidance system.

33. (Amended) A method of treating a fibrous material with a press device capable of variably adjustable pressure and variably adjustable line force, said method comprising:

forming a press nip between a shoe press unit and a counter roll, the press nip elongated in a web travel direction;

supporting a flexible press belt, that revolves around a non-rotating carrier, on at least one first support unit, the flexible press belt supported in the region of the elongated press nip;

forming a roll nip between the counter roll and a third roll;

supporting a roll jacket, that revolves around a second non-rotating carrier, on at least one second support unit, the roll jacket supported in the region of the elongated press nip;

supplying a fluid to the at least one first support unit and the at least one second support unit;

adjusting a pressure differential between internal pressures generated by the at least one first support element acting on the flexible press belt, and the at least one second support element acting on the roll jacket; the pressure differential adjusted by adjusting of the pressure of the fluid supplied to the at least one first support unit and the at least one second support unit, wherein the pressure differential is adjusted as at least one of a function of at least one of a line force in the roll nip by predeterminable characteristic curves and a function of line force correction procedures for the roll nip,

wherein the line force correction procedures may be at least one of input by way of an electronic control and produced by way of corresponding signals of a process guidance system.